

The Sailors' Snug Harbor, Main Gatehouse  
Richmond Terrace  
New Brighton  
New York  
Richmond County  
New York

HABS No. NY-5482

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
801 19th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

## THE SAILORS' SNUG HARBOR, MAIN GATEHOUSE

Address: Richmond Terrace, between Tysen Avenue and Delafield Place, New Brighton, New York, Richmond County, New York.

Present Owner: The Trustees of The Sailors' Snug Harbor in the City of New York.

Present Occupant: The Sailors' Snug Harbor.

Present Use: Central gatehouse, used for pedestrian traffic from Richmond Terrace.

Statement of Significance: The Sailors' Snug Harbor is a home for aged seamen opened on Staten Island in 1833. This gatehouse is one of three on the grounds of the home and forms part of the institution's particularly rich catalog of nineteenth-century architecture.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: See photo-data book for The Sailors' Snug Harbor, HABS No. NY-5473, for this information.
2. Date of erection: A map of The Sailors' Snug Harbor published in Harper's New Monthly Magazine, January, 1873, indicates that this central gatehouse had not yet been built. Instead, there was a semi-circular drive from the "Shore Road" to the three main buildings; there were "lodges" at the two entrances. However, in the Atlas of Staten Island, Richmond County, New York, published by J.B. Beers & Co. in 1874, the central gatehouse is indicated.

## B. Bibliography

Note: See photo-data book for The Sailors' Snug Harbor, HABS No. NY-5473, for additional bibliographical material.

Atlas of Staten Island, Richmond County, New York. New York: J.B. Beers & Co., 1874.

"The Sailors' Snug Harbor," Harper's New Monthly Magazine, XLVI (January, 1873), 188-195.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural interest and merit: The Sailors' Snug Harbor is a home for aged seamen opened on Staten Island in 1833. This gatehouse is one of three on the grounds of the home and forms part of the institution's particularly rich catalog of nineteenth-century architecture.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Number of stories: One story.
2. Number of bays: North and south facades are each three bays wide; east and west facades are each one bay wide.
3. Over-all dimensions: The building measures approximately 40'-0" long and 20'-0" wide.
4. Layout, shape: The building is rectangular in plan with projecting sections on east and west sides.
5. Foundations: Stone.
6. Wall construction, finish and color: Brick laid up in running bond and painted yellow, stone quoins.
7. Stoop: On the Richmond Terrace (north) facade there are stone steps with an iron railing.
8. Chimneys: Two brick chimneys, painted white.
9. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: Arched opening with rusticated stone architrave runs north and south through building; off of this opening where the east-west axis intersects this opening there is on each side a wood and glass door painted black with three light transoms above.
  - b. Windows: Windows are square-headed with four-over-four-light double-hung wooden sash and rusticated architraves.
10. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: Segmental arched central section flanked by flat narrow decks and half gables, low subsidiary gables on cross axis.

- b. Cornice: Wooden cornice painted white, with brick corbelled brackets.
- c. Dormers, cupola: Wooden cupola painted white with metal cornice; round-headed single-light windows with red glass. Wooden dormers on east-west axis.

C. Description of Interior

- 1. Floor plan: Single room on each side with small room in projecting sections.
- 2. Flooring: Wood.
- 3. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster.

D. Site and Surroundings

- 1. Orientation: The buildings faces north onto Richmond Terrace. It is approximately 165 feet north of the center dormitory and administration building (Building C).

Prepared by Diana S. Waite  
Architectural Historian  
June, 1968

Addendum To

Sailors' Snug Harbor, North Gate House  
Richmond Terrace  
New Brighton  
Richmond County  
New York

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